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## Country programme recommendation**

## Sri Lanka

**Addendum**

*Summary*

The present addendum to the country note submitted to the Executive Board at its first regular session of 2001 contains the final country programme recommendation for Board approval.

It contains a recommendation for funding the country programme of Sri Lanka which has an annual planning level of $1,000,000 or less. The Executive Director *recommends* that the Executive Board approve the amount of $3,905,000 from regular resources, subject to availability of funds, and $10,000,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2002 to 2006.

* E/ICEF/2001/12.

** The original country note provided only indicative figures for estimated programme cooperation. The figures provided in the present addendum are final and take into account unspent balances of programme cooperation at the end of 2000. They will be contained in the summary of recommendations for regular resources and other resources programmes for 2001 (E/ICEF/2001/P/L.73).

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| *Basic data*[a] *(1999 unless otherwise stated)* | |
|---|---|
| Child population (millions, under 18 years) | 6.2 |
| U5MR (per 1,000 live births) (2000) | 19 |
| IMR (per 1,000 live births) (2000) | 17 |
| Underweight (% moderate and severe) (2000) | 33 |
| Maternal mortality ratio (per 1,000 live births) (1996) | 60 |
| Literacy (% male/female) (2000) | 94/89 |
| Primary school enrolment (% net, male/female) | ../.. |
| Primary school children reaching grade 5 (%) (1997) | 97 |
| Use of improved drinking water sources (%) (2000) | 77 |
| Routine EPI vaccines financed by Government (%) | 100 |
| GNP per capita (US$) | 820 |
| One-year-olds fully immunized against: | |
| Tuberculosis | 97 per cent |
| Diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus | 99 per cent |
| Measles | 95 per cent |
| Poliomyelitis | 99 per cent |
| Pregnant women immunized against tetanus | .. per cent |

[a] Excerpted from the publication "Progress since the World Summit for Children: A statistical review", prepared as a supplement to the Secretary-General's report "We the children: End-decade review of the follow-up to the World Summit for Children" (A/S-27/3), and therefore may differ from data contained in the text of this document.

## The situation of children and women

1. The major features of the situation of children and women in Sri Lanka remain largely unchanged from those described in the country note submitted to the Executive Board at its first regular session of 2001 (E/ICEF/2001/P/L.40). Despite efforts to start peace talks, the conflict — which now spans a whole generation of children — continues, with its cumulative impact on the deteriorating social, economic and political situation.

2. The 2000 Demographic and Health Survey, which excluded the conflict-affected areas, shows an improving trend in health and nutrition since 1993. Exclusive breastfeeding of children under four months old has increased from 14 to 79 per cent. Underweight in children 6-59 months old has declined from 40 per cent in 1993, but remains unacceptably high at 34 per cent. Knowledge of HIV/AIDS was poor, with nearly one in four women unaware of at least one method of transmission. Another recent survey shows that iodine deficiency disorders affect one out of every four children, and only 50 per cent of households consume iodized salt. There remains a lack of reliable and nationally representative data on the emotional, cognitive and psychosocial development of children and on the incidence and prevalence of gender-based violence, although there are indications that these are major areas of concern.

## Programme cooperation, 1997-2001

3. The objective of the past country programme (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.33/Add.1) was to support achievement of the Government's National Plan of Action (NPA) for Children and the goals of the World Summit for Children, within the framework of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. The country programme supported Sri Lanka's considerable achievements in child survival and development, and progress in participation.

4. The overall objective of the health programme was to contribute to reducing infant, child and maternity mortality and morbidity. Immunization coverage of infants exceeded 90 per cent, including in conflict-affected areas where "days of tranquillity" were observed for immunization. Polio-free status was sustained, and the prevalence of neonatal tetanus and measles are very low. A process of auditing maternal deaths revealed higher rates than routinely reported. Plans to adopt the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) initiative were not successful owing to delays in obtaining policy decisions. The programme promoted positive knowledge, attitudes and behaviours to prevent HIV/AIDS among adolescents.

5. The participatory nutrition improvement programme promoted a strategic shift in government policy from a sectoral, food subsidy-based, didactic approach to a multisectoral, community-based, participatory approach based on food, health and care. The programme expanded to 17 out of 25 districts, to the conflict-affected districts and worker communities in 25 tea estates. An evaluation in 1999 showed significant improvement in low birth weight and behaviour practices. The programme successfully addressed micronutrient deficiencies by supporting surveys to develop national policies on the control of vitamin A deficiency, iron deficiency anaemia and the marketing of breastmilk substitutes.

6. The education programme consisted of two projects. The early childhood development (ECD) project focused on capacity-building for home-based interventions through the Government and non-governmental organization (NGO) extension infrastructure. A National Committee on ECD was established, and the Ministry of Education initiated a policy formulation process. The objective of the primary education project was to increase the percentage of grade 5 students reaching mastery levels in literacy, numeracy and life skills. The focus changed to meet the government priority to pilot education reforms in one district, developing curricula, textbooks, teacher guides and teacher-training programmes. A child-friendly environment approach was developed in small, disadvantaged schools, and an "every child in school" campaign was launched in disadvantaged areas where non-enrolment, absenteeism and drop-out rates were high.

7. The programme on women's rights built government capacity to mainstream gender, increase awareness and address gender violence. Planners, the judiciary, professional groups and police were mobilized on gender issues. A national database on women was supported to facilitate better decision-making and the integration of women's issues into the planning process. The vulnerability of women migrants and their families to violence and abuse was highlighted.

8. The programme for children in need of special protection focused on reducing domestic labour and sexual abuse, and advocated to the judiciary, police, teachers, and professional and community groups. One main strategy against child labour was to improve access to basic education. The National Child Protection Authority (NCPA) was supported to publicize and address child abuse, and support was given to increase the minimum age of domestic labour to 14 years and to amend the Penal Code on child abuse. Less progress was achieved in strengthening rehabilitation services for victims of abuse.

9. The area-based programme for the estates focused on reducing the disparity between plantation workers and the rest of the population in the provision of basic services. As most women are working, the programme supported crèches and pre-schools; participatory nutrition activities; basic health services, with an emphasis on adolescent girls; education quality; and the protection of children from labour and women from violence. While the gap continued to narrow, a major concern was the sustainability of interventions in a privatized sector.

10. The programme for advocacy, planning, monitoring and evaluation successfully collected, analysed, disseminated and used data on the situation of children and women for advocacy and programme monitoring. A demand for data was created and information systems were set up. The programme assisted the collection of data on progress towards the goals of the World Summit for Children.

11. The emergency programme focused on mitigating the impact of the conflict on children and women, and strengthening the coping capacities of affected families. Volunteers were trained and equipment was provided for health centres and schools. Awareness campaigns were conducted on gender-based violence, landmines and community-based rehabilitation. Play, sport, music and applied theatre were supported to help children cope with psychosocial stress. Teachers were trained to build conflict resolution skills and attitudes of peace and tolerance. As the conflict intensified, the programme was strengthened to cover 11 districts through five base offices. Activities were constrained due to security restrictions, lack of transport facilities and poor capacity of local partners.

## Lessons learned from past cooperation

12. The major lessons learned during the 1997-2001 programme cycle were described in the country note. The mid-term review (MTR) indicated that programmes were fragmented, dispersed and lacked synergy. Programmes that were more participatory and provided balanced support to different levels of implementation were more successful.

**Recommended programme cooperation, 2002-2006**

| | *Estimated annual expenditure (In thousands of United States dollars)* | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *2002* | *2003* | *2004* | *2005* | *2006* | *Total* |
| **Regular resources** | | | | | | |
| Early childhood | 281.0 | 281.0 | 281.0 | 281.0 | 281.0 | 1 405.0 |
| Learning years | 82.0 | 82.0 | 82.0 | 82.0 | 82.0 | 410.0 |
| Adolescence | 50.8 | 50.8 | 50.8 | 50.8 | 50.8 | 254.0 |
| Protection of children and women | 125.0 | 125.0 | 125.0 | 125.0 | 125.0 | 625.0 |
| Rights-based planning, policy analysis, advocacy, communication, and monitoring and evaluation | 140.6 | 140.6 | 140.6 | 140.6 | 140.6 | 703.0 |
| Cross-sectoral costs | 101.6 | 101.6 | 101.6 | 101.6 | 101.6 | 508.0 |
| **Subtotal** | **781.0** | **781.0** | **781.0** | **781.0** | **781.0** | **3 905.0** |
| **Other resources** | | | | | | |
| Children affected by armed conflict[a] | 300.0 | 300.0 | 300.0 | 300.0 | 300.0 | 1 500.0 |
| Early childhood | 360.0 | 540.0 | 720.0 | 1 080.0 | 900.0 | 3 600.0 |
| Learning years | 100.0 | 200.0 | 300.0 | 440.0 | 350.0 | 1 390.0 |
| Adolescence | 150.0 | 200.0 | 160.0 | 200.0 | 200.0 | 910.0 |
| Protection of children and women | 180.0 | 270.0 | 360.0 | 540.0 | 450.0 | 1 800.0 |
| Rights-based planning, policy analysis, advocacy, communication, and monitoring and evaluation | 55.0 | 82.0 | 110.0 | 165.0 | 138.0 | 550.0 |
| Cross-sectoral costs | 25.0 | 38.0 | 50.0 | 75.0 | 62.0 | 250.0 |
| **Subtotal** | **1 170.0** | **1 630.0** | **2 000.0** | **2 800.0** | **2 400.0** | **10 000.0** |
| **Total** | **1 951.0** | **2 411.0** | **2 781.0** | **3 581.0** | **3 181.0** | **13 905.0** |

[a] In addition, this programme will be funded through appeals estimated to raise $13 million based on the experience in the previous programme of cooperation.

## Country programme preparation process

13. The External Resources Department of the Ministry of Finance and Planning coordinated the overall preparation process. A cross-section of government institutions, United Nations and donor partners, civil society organizations (CSOs) and children participated in the various stages through working groups which were appointed to develop the situation analysis, strategy and master plan of operations (MPO).

## Country programme goals and objectives

14. The goal of the country programme is to support the progressive realization of children's and women's rights through a caring and enabling social and physical environment. The objectives are to promote: (a) the protection of the rights of children and women affected by armed conflict and other especially vulnerable situations; (b) improved growth and development in early childhood; (c) increased rates of school attendance and learning achievement in middle childhood; (d) improved skills, coping capacities and participation of adolescents; and (e) an environment of child-friendly policies and attitudes at all levels.

## Relation to national and international priorities

15. The strategic framework of the country programme is guided by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the principles of universality, participation, accountability and indivisibility; the Convention on the Rights of the Child; and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

16. The Common Country Assessment was used to analyse the situation of children and women, and the new programme will contribute directly to each of the goals of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), which aim to mitigate the effects of conflict, reduce poverty and strengthen governance. The programme will provide humanitarian assistance and protection to children and women; reduce poverty by strengthening access to and the quality of basic services, focusing on the most disadvantaged; and strengthen governance by promoting participatory approaches and management capacities at all levels.

17. The programme addresses the "Emerging issues for children in the twenty-first century" (E/ICEF/2000/13) and the five priorities of the medium-term strategic plan (MTSP), as relevant for Sri Lanka's stage of development. In some areas, such as girls' education, Sri Lanka has reached gender parity, with high enrolment. The focus of the programme is, therefore, on learning achievement, attendance and retention of girls and boys. It adopts the "Martigny approach" by mainstreaming the national programme within conflict areas and meeting core corporate commitments of UNICEF in the prevailing complex emergency. It also follows the recommendations of the Graça Machel report to the United Nations on the *Impact of Armed Conflict on Children*. The programme also addresses the priorities described in the draft outcome document for the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Children 2001 and the Global Movement for Children.

18. There are no formal sector-wide approaches in Sri Lanka. However, the programme addresses the priorities of the Government's Poverty Reduction Framework by supporting basic services and focusing on the most disadvantaged communities. The programme supports the Government's ongoing reform of the education sector and conforms to its draft Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconciliation Framework. It also supports the NPA for Children and the Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, particularly those on children affected by conflict and on child protection.

## Programme strategy

19. As described in the country note, the key strategies to be followed in the country programme are: (a) to focus specifically on family and community capacity and on discrete higher layers of duty bearers; (b) to adopt a multisectoral approach in all programme areas; and (c) to adopt a life cycle approach to child survival, growth and development.

20. As families and communities are the immediate duty bearers of children's and women's rights, the first strategy is to improve their capacity to assess their problems, analyse them and make community action plans to overcome them (known as the "triple A" approach). The activities will be based on a "bottom-up" progression, starting with the activities identified at family and community levels, which in turn define the related activities of three discrete layers of duty bearers. These are: (a) the service providers and external facilitators who routinely interact with the community; (b) those at the subnational level who supervise, manage and provide resources to the above; and (c) those at the national level who determine overall policies, mobilize and allocate resources, set national standards and guidelines, etc.

21. The second strategy is to adopt multisectoral approaches instead of sector-specific programmes. Each programme will be managed holistically, not divided into vertical, issue-specific projects. The activities of each programme will be clustered horizontally by the level of duty bearers who participate in the activity. Thus, each programme has an identical management structure, creating opportunities for greater cross-programme synergies and collaboration.

22. The third strategy merges issues of survival, growth and development into three discrete stages of childhood: (a) early childhood, from conception to 5 years; (b) middle childhood, from 5 to 15 years; and (c) adolescence, from 10 to 18 years. Each stage is addressed by a multisectoral, holistic programme, with no vertical projects, potentially realizing synergies among survival, growth and development interventions.

23. The strategies will be implemented through a common geographical focus for all programmes to allow more intensive development of approaches and their implementation in the most deprived parts of the country, and to enhance their impact and sustainability through greater synergy. The geographical focus will include the districts most affected by the conflict, in addition to 12 out of 25 otherwise disadvantaged districts that have already been the focus of the earlier nutrition, estates and education programmes. In some cases, support may be given for specific activities in other districts. Activities will be implemented in selected divisions with regular resources and expanded within each district as other resources become available. This will be complemented by nationwide advocacy and national policy formulation, supported by regular resources.

24. In view of Sri Lanka's relatively efficient social sector infrastructure, coupled with relatively high social investment and a responsive and literate civil society, the role of UNICEF in programme implementation will be primarily catalytic. The programmes will initiate actions in some areas, but more often identify gaps and facilitate responses by existing government or NGO programmes. Furthermore, the activities undertaken by any community will be limited, based on their own priorities as specified in their action plans. Thus, despite limited resources, the

programme will be able to support a relatively wide range of activities. Programme expenditures will support mainly the demonstration of workable models for replication nationwide; the development of capacities of duty bearers to influence values, attitudes and practices; and the mobilization of the Government and civil society to develop and implement child-friendly policies, building alliances and networks with NGOs and community-based organizations. The supply component in most programmes is very small. Each programme will conduct baseline surveys for results-based management, using existing indicators or developing new ones as required. Regular resources will be used to support policy development, advocacy, capacity-building and the promotion of behaviour change, while other resources will be used mainly for service delivery components and to scale up programme activities.

25. As the protection of children and women transcends the life cycle approach, it is the subject of two multisectoral programmes: one focusing on conflict and the second on other protection issues. To create a favourable environment for the implementation of all programmes, a cross-sectoral programme addressing the larger decision-making environment underpins the country programme.

26. Thus, the country programme comprises six multisectoral programmes: (a) children affected by armed conflict; (b) early childhood; (c) learning years; (d) adolescence; (e) protection of children and women; and (f) rights-based planning, policy analysis, advocacy, communication, monitoring and evaluation. This differs from the country note in that learning years and adolescence are now separate because the former is more school-oriented, while the latter focuses more on peer activities for out-of-school youth.

27. **Children affected by armed conflict**. Conflict is the greatest threat to the rights of all children and women in Sri Lanka, and mitigating its effects is the first priority of UNDAF and one of the highest priorities of the Government. The programme will encompass all of the issues addressed by the other five programmes, which are often worse in conflict-affected areas: a poor start in life and poor early childhood experience; poor school attendance and learning achievement; stress and risk-taking behaviour during adolescence; violence and discrimination against children and women; and poor capacity to make child-friendly decisions. In addition, the programme will address conflict-specific issues, with a focus on the psychosocial effects of the war. The mitigation of psychosocial effects on children and recovery from these effects will be addressed through developing the capacity of the community and caregivers to recognize symptoms and implement simple preventive and curative measures following a primary mental health care approach. Support will be given to the promotion of more play opportunities, improved social and learning environment for internally displaced children, the prevention of child recruitment and rehabilitation of former child combatants, and mine awareness. The programme will build local capacity for the re-unification of unaccompanied children with their families, and provide rehabilitative services for children with war-related disabilities. Gender issues will receive increased attention through public awareness and advocacy on domestic violence and restoring self-esteem and independence of war widows through support for income-generation activities. The programme will advocate nationwide for the concept of "children as zones of peace", and support NGOs lobbying for a ban on landmines and activities for peace education. It aims to achieve 95 per cent immunization coverage; 30 per cent reduction in malaria in pregnant mothers and infants; improved psychosocial caring

practices among 30 per cent of families; 30 per cent reduction in school drop out; the training of 40 per cent of volunteer teachers in child-friendly methods; 20 per cent reduction in landmine accidents to children; and 50 per cent rehabilitation of victims.

28. Experience has shown that the implementation modalities of the rest of the country programme are unsuitable for the conflict-affected areas. The security environment inhibits travel and the transport of materials, local government and NGO structures are weak, communication and resource flows from the centre are often unreliable, and donors and other partners are oriented towards humanitarian issues. In addition, the protection needs of children and women require an international presence. For these reasons, the programme has a management structure involving five field offices to facilitate local-level needs assessment, support monitoring and accountability, and intervene on protection issues with security forces and non-state actors. In Colombo, technical consistency with the other programmes will be maintained through working groups, and out-posted field staff will interact with relevant programme staff and national-level government counterparts on their visits to Colombo.

29. The programme will collaborate with other agencies operating in the area, particularly United Nations agencies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and international NGOs. Collaboration will be developed further with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to support internally displaced persons and to protect children and women from conflict-related abuse. UNICEF will complement United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) activities in mine action with support for mine awareness, and the World Food Programme supplementary feeding activities for vulnerable conflict-affected communities with technical support and information, education and communication materials on caring practices. UNICEF will work closely in Colombo with the major diplomatic missions that support humanitarian concerns and activities, particularly, Australia, Canada, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union, many of whom also support this programme.

30. **Early childhood**. This programme will bring together existing partners to develop an integrated, team-based approach to promote activities and behaviours related to the child from conception to five years of age. The programme builds on the successful approaches of the participatory nutrition improvement programme, and incorporates the health and ECD components of the former programme into one holistic programme in the 12 focus districts. The underlying strategy is to build the capacity of families and communities to understand the holistic nature of survival, growth and development in early childhood, and to improve the quality of care and interaction with the child. It aims to develop the capacities of external facilitators and service providers to facilitate improved behaviours of families and caregivers; to ensure that services reach the community in a timely and sustained manner; and to maximize impact through promoting complementarity between survival-, growth- and development-related interventions. The programme will improve the capacity of subnational institutions and managers, including NGOs, to allocate resources and manage programme activities, while at the national level it will support the development of a holistic ECD policy.

31. During pregnancy and up to the first month after birth, the focus will be on the right of every woman to life and health by ensuring a safe pregnancy; improving access to quality emergency obstetric care; ensuring the safe delivery of a healthy child, including post-natal care; promoting the care of pregnant and lactating mothers in the home; and preventing stress and domestic violence. The programme will aim to reduce the prevalence of low birth weight in the focus districts from 18 to 13 per cent by 2006, and reduce neonatal mortality by 10 per cent. Key activities will include the training of service providers and external facilitators to improve the quality of antenatal and post-natal care in the home and in health institutions, including the provision of micronutrient supplements and regular monitoring of weight gain during pregnancy.

32. For the period from one month to three years of age, the programme will address the major elements of the health, nutritional, emotional, cognitive and psychosocial development of the child. IMCI, at home and in health units, and other home child-care practices to prevent malnutrition will be promoted through training service providers and external facilitators. Underweight among children under three years of age in the focus districts will be reduced by up to 20 per cent. Limited support to immunization will continue, focusing on disease surveillance and technical capacity. Other preventive measures will include limited support to community initiatives to improve safe water supply and adopt sanitary and hygienic practices, contributing to the national goal of universal coverage in water and sanitation by 2010 in the focus areas. Support will continue for universal salt iodization and consumption, the promotion of micronutrient rich foods, and supplementation with vitamin A and iron/folate.

33. To promote the emotional, psychosocial and cognitive development of the young child, existing family practices will be identified, and knowledge and skills will be strengthened to ensure more sustained interactions with and stimulation of young children up to three years old in the home. The promotion of exclusive breastfeeding will be a key component of child stimulation. In collaboration with professional bodies and research institutions, the programme will develop indicators for the emotional, cognitive and psychosocial development of the child in order to establish a baseline and measure programme impact.

34. During the pre-school years (from three to five years of age), support for home-based child development activities will be supplemented by support to transform pre-schools, which currently emphasize scholastic achievements and rote learning, into community-managed and child-friendly ECD centres. The programme will train teachers and caregivers in these centres and orient parents regarding the value of interactive learning through play, gender socialization and basic life skills such as good hygiene and peaceful conflict resolution. Health workers will respond to the survival, growth and development needs of the child during routine visits to these centres.

35. The programme will collaborate with other major donors in the health and education sectors, particularly the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, and with the World Health Organization (WHO) on technical issues and in the Roll Back Malaria campaign. UNICEF will collaborate with the World Bank projects for health and nutrition, and community water supply and sanitation to develop communication approaches and materials, and with the Australian Agency for International Development, which is a new major UNICEF partner in nutrition.

36. **Learning years**. This programme will further develop the child's potential in the middle childhood period of 5 to 14 years of age. The objectives include promoting primary school re-enrolment and retention in the focus districts for 80 per cent of girls and boys who have dropped out, and attainment of minimum standards of year five learning achievement by 60 per cent. The programme will support communities, NGOs and the private sector to strengthen school attendance and monitoring committees in the focus districts to ensure that every child under 14 years of age enters and remains in school, and to facilitate children of disadvantaged families who have dropped out to return to school or gain access to non-formal literacy centres. The programme will target disabled children, children in alternative care, marginalized girls and the children of migrant mothers who are most vulnerable to non-enrolment and drop out. Ongoing education reforms will be supported to improve learning achievement by expanding the previously developed child-friendly school model to 70 per cent of the schools in the focus districts and by promoting child-centred teaching methodologies. Small schools in socio-economically deprived areas will receive special attention, especially to enhance multigrade teaching skills.

37. The programme will also support periodic assessments of learning achievement and surveys to identify children who have never enrolled or have dropped out of school, especially girls. The programme will collaborate with major donors in education, particularly the World Bank and the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DfID), to attract more resources for primary schooling and the non-formal education sector. Regular resources will be used for community- and school-level activities in the focus districts, and to develop national policies, while other resources will be used to expand programme activities.

38. **Adolescence**. This programme addresses the period between 10 and 18 years of age, which is critical for the final fulfilment of the child's potential. Its aim is to break the intergenerational transmission of poverty, gender discrimination and violence. The programme aims to build the capacity of families and communities in the focus districts to guide and support in a participatory manner up to 60 per cent of adolescents to adopt positive behaviours and life skills that will lead to a healthy and socially responsible lifestyle. As adolescents often care for younger siblings and are future parents, the programme will build their knowledge of early child care. It will also promote the participation of adolescents in the decisions affecting their families and communities, for which monitoring indicators will be developed. The issues to be addressed include high-risk sexual behaviour to reduce HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections; alcohol, tobacco and drug abuse; suicide and conflict tendencies; and gender violence and discrimination. The approach will be to train peer educators to undertake participatory communication activities. For HIV/AIDS prevention, special emphasis will be placed on high-risk groups, particularly girls in the Free Trade Zones; boys engaged in commercial sex; and adolescent daughters of migrant mothers who are vulnerable to violence, sexual abuse and HIV infection.

39. The programme will strengthen the subnational infrastructure to deliver youth-friendly services in the focus districts, including supporting school health services, expanding the school health club network and supporting NGO alliances and youth groups. At the national level, the major strategy will be political advocacy and social mobilization focusing on influential political and religious leaders, NGO activists and the media, particularly in the prevention of HIV/AIDS. The programme will also promote nationwide awareness of the participation rights of children in national

and local decision-making. Multimedia channels, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) Goodwill Ambassador, and sports and music events will be used for communication on HIV/AIDS and other issues. The programme will collaborate with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on adolescent reproductive health, with WHO in the prevention of tobacco use among adolescents and with all UNAIDS partners on HIV/AIDS prevention. The results will include the reduction of high-risk sexual behaviours and substance abuse among 60 per cent of adolescents in the focus districts and school health clubs. Indicators on the participation of adolescents will be developed as part of the programme.

40. **Protection of children and women**. This is a comprehensive multisectoral programme to address abuse, violence and neglect, and the rehabilitation of victims. It will focus on the gradual elimination of domestic child labour; the reduction of the prevalence of child abuse and exploitation, including commercial sex; the reduction of gender-based violence, particularly domestic violence and rape; and the protection and recovery of abused children and women. The programme will promote awareness and skills of 70 per cent of families in the focus districts to identify and intervene in cases of child labour, child abuse and violence against women to help abused children and women recover; and to create demand for perpetrators to be held accountable. Baseline surveys will be conducted and performance indicators will be developed during the programme. The programme will improve the skills of service providers to identify and deal with abuse cases, and build the capacities of subnational institutions and managers, including child protection committees in the focus districts, to monitor and redress violations, catalyse mechanisms to improve the coordination and integration of psychological support, and provide assistance during judicial proceedings. The programme will train the judiciary, police and other service providers to make legal proceedings more child- and woman-friendly; to ensure the effective implementation of judicial proceedings and law enforcement without discrimination, harassment or further trauma of the victim; and to reverse the trend of impunity of the abusers. The programme will support the training of service providers to provide psychological support for abuse, rape and incest victims; to improve the availability and quality of institutional care, including half-way homes for victims; and to improve alternative care for children and women in conflict with the law. Victims of abuse and exploitation will be assisted to obtain birth certificates, access to health services and education. Mass media will be used to strengthen the commitment of civil society to address the root causes of abuse and exploitation of children and violence against women, which include marital breakdown, alcoholism, family disruption and migrant mothers.

41. At the national level, the programme will support advocacy and policy development with existing institutional structures, such as the NCPA, the Women's Bureau, the National Women's Commission, NGO networks and parliamentary lobby groups. A national database on child abuse and violence against women will be established to support advocacy and monitor trends. The programme will support reform of the law and legal processes, especially the juvenile justice system, and sensitize the judiciary, police and media on the rights of women and children in cases of abuse. It will also counter gender stereotyping and the portrayal of violence against women in the entertainment media. Support will be given to the Foreign Employment Bureau to help women make informed choices about migrating for labour, especially to reduce their vulnerability to violence, sexual harassment and

abuse, possible exposure to HIV/AIDS; and to reduce the vulnerability of the children left behind. New NGO partners will be sought to deal with the complex issue of sexual abuse in institutions and homes. The programme will collaborate with the International Labour Organization on domestic child labour, and with UNDP and UNFPA on gender discrimination and violence. The World Bank, DfID and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) are also major partners in the area of child protection.

42. **Rights-based planning, policy analysis, advocacy, communication, and monitoring and evaluation**. This programme addresses the many decision makers who are the cross-sectoral policy makers, planners, civil administrators, politicians, media, religious leaders and society at large whose attitudes, capacities and decisions significantly affect resource allocations and outcomes for children and women. The programme will develop the attitudes and capacities of the Government as well as NGO and civil society partners in the 12 focus districts to put "children first"; mainstream gender considerations; and follow a rights-based approach in their normal work of planning, advocating, mobilizing, allocating and managing resources, as well as implementing and monitoring activities. The programme will also facilitate local synergies across programmes and provide technical assistance to all programmes for communication for behavioural change through interpersonal, local media and mass media channels. In the focus districts, it will train cross-sectoral government and NGO administrators and planners at village, divisional, district and provincial levels on the issues addressed by each programme. It will strengthen their capacity for child-friendly and gender-sensitive budgeting, human resources allocation and activity planning within existing village, divisional, district and provincial planning processes to create an "enabling environment" for the implementation of all programmes for women and children. The programme will support the development of simple information management systems at the local level, incorporating indicators on children and women so that local decision makers are aware of the priority issues in their area. It will support the performance of subnational Convention on the Rights of the Child monitoring committees, develop local capacity to monitor the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and local efforts to ensure universal birth registration.

43. At the national level, the programme will support cross-sectoral policy analysis and research, and use the results for evidence-based advocacy to mobilize national and international investment in children and formulate child-friendly and gender-equitable policies. It will also provide technical support to the other programmes to do the same on programme-specific issues. Print and electronic media will be used to promote the concepts of "children first" and gender equity in civil society, the general public and the corporate sector. The programme will build partnerships with key public, civil society and private sector institutions, NGOs, bilateral donors and United Nations partners to leverage financial, human and informational resources, and political priority for the realization of children's and women's rights. It will provide technical support for and coordinate baseline surveys, studies and evaluations for each programme and for the country programme as a whole. It will strengthen the capacity of the existing national Convention on the Rights of the Child monitoring committee to promote child rights and to prepare the State Party report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child. It will also initiate a similar process for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of

Discrimination against Women. The programme will monitor progress towards the country programme goals, and in conformity with government policies, UNDAF goals and MTSP priorities. The programme will collaborate with gender- and governance-related programmes supported by UNDP and CIDA.

44. **Cross-sectoral costs** will cover programme implementation not attributable to a specific programme, such as costs of support staff in supply, procurement, logistics and security not included in the support budget.

## Monitoring and evaluation

45. The integrated monitoring and evaluation plan is based on the programme logframes that will be the principal tool for results-based monitoring. The progress of each programme and the country programme as a whole will be monitored with programme partners and through joint field visits at half-yearly and annual reviews. Core indicators for monitoring results in the focus districts and nationwide will be drawn from programme logframes, including: neonatal mortality; low birth weight and stunting; caring practices; cognitive and psychosocial development; learning achievement; rates of drop out from and return to school; reported number of children abused and in domestic labour, and incidents of violence against women; reported HIV/AIDS cases; the proportion of adolescents with risk-taking behaviours; and participation of children in decision-making. Behavioural indicators will be developed on the home care of pregnant mothers, child care and adolescent behaviours, and on the psychosocial stress of children affected by armed conflict. The indicators will be assessed through baseline and periodic sample surveys, supported by minor modifications of existing routine health and education data collection systems. Participatory approaches, in which adolescent participation will be encouraged, will be used for communities to assess and analyse the situation of children and women. Baseline surveys will precede all communication campaigns. Data will be disaggregated by sex and geographic location, especially in the areas most seriously affected by the conflict, to bring greater focus on disadvantaged groups.

46. Community action plans, which result from the communities process of assessment and analysis and are facilitated by external facilitators, will select the priority issues and actions for each community. These will be synthesized, monitored and evaluated against programme indicators and objectives. Specific activities, which may be prioritized at family and community levels and at the discrete layers of duty bearers by each programme in the 12 focus districts, will be elaborated in verifiable terms in the MPO. Key lessons learned will be used for advocacy with counterparts and donors for replication nationwide.

47. As part of the MTR, evaluations will be conducted on the early childhood programme, the child-friendly schools component of the learning years programme, and the protection component of the programme for children affected by armed conflict. Thematic evaluations will also be carried out on community empowerment, children's participation in decision-making processes and institutional capacity-building on rights-based approaches. Support will be given to the Government to maintain a national database on the situation of children and women and to set up a common United Nations database for monitoring UNDAF goals. UNICEF will participate in periodic reviews of progress towards UNDAF goals.

## Collaboration with partners

48. Examples of collaboration with partners in specific programme areas are given in the programme descriptions above. UNDAF has strengthened the scope for cooperation among United Nation agencies. Existing partnerships with multilateral and bilateral partners will also be consolidated to raise investments in children through both other resources and bilaterally. UNICEF will advocate with the Government to incorporate child-related dimensions of poverty and "investing in children" in its Vision 2010 process, and in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper and the World Bank's Country Assistance Strategy.

49. Collaboration with CSOs and human rights activists in the promotion of the two Conventions will be strengthened. UNICEF will advocate with the public and private sectors, policy makers, the legislature, media and civil society to promote activities in support of the Global Movement for Children.

## Programme management

50. The External Resources Department will coordinate implementation of the country programme, including joint annual and biennial reviews. A multisectoral team for each of the six programmes, consisting of major counterparts, NGOs and other relevant partners, will be constituted to prepare the annual work plans, and manage and review implementation of their programmes. Within UNICEF, cross-programme teams will coordinate activities targeted at each of the four discrete levels of duty bearers to ensure horizontal linkages.

## TABLE

COUNTRY : SRI LANKA
PROGRAME : 2002-2006

### LINKAGE OF PROGRAMME BUDGET AND STAFFING/STAFF COSTS

| PROGRAMME SECTION/AREAS AND FUNDING SOURCE | PROGRAMME BUDGET | | | POSTS a/ | | | | | | | | | | STAFF COSTS b/ | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | RR | OR | TOTAL | D2/L7 | D1/L6 | P/L5 | P/L4 | P/L3 | P/L2 | IP | NP | GS | TOTAL | IP | LOCAL | TOTAL |
| REGULAR RESOURCES : | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| EARLY CHILDHOOD | 1,405,000 | | 1,405,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 687,109 | 85,272 | 772,381 |
| LEARNING YEARS | 410,000 | | 410,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 118,491 | 118,491 |
| ADOLESCENCE | 254,000 | | 254,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| PROTECTION OF CHILDREN/WOMEN | 625,000 | | 625,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 229,760 | 229,760 |
| RB PLAN/POL. ANALY/ADVOC/COM/M&E | 703,000 | | 703,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 445,333 | 445,333 |
| CROSS-SECTORAL COSTS | 508,000 | | 508,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 383,634 | 383,634 |
| TOTAL RR | 3,905,000 | | 3,905,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 7 | 15 | 687,109 | 1,262,490 | 1,949,599 |
| OTHER RESOURCES : | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CHILD. AFFECTED BY ARMED CONFLIC | | 1,500,000 | 1,500,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 8 | 1,344,050 | 301,981 | 1,646,031 |
| EARLY CHILDHOOD | | 3,600,000 | 3,600,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 656,941 | 313,082 | 970,023 |
| LEARNING YEARS | | 1,390,000 | 1,390,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| ADOLESCENCE | | 910,000 | 910,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 172,473 | 172,473 |
| PROTECTION OF CHILDREN/WOMEN | | 1,800,000 | 1,800,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 182,354 | 182,354 |
| RB PLAN/POL. ANALY/ADVOC/COM/M&E | | 550,000 | 550,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CROSS-SECTORAL COSTS | | 250,000 | 250,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL OR | | 10,000,000 | 10,000,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 17 | 2,000,991 | 969,890 | 2,970,881 |
| TOTAL RR & OR | 3,905,000 | 10,000,000 | 13,905,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 12 | 16 | 32 | 2,688,100 | 2,232,380 | 4,920,480 |
| SUPPORT BUDGET | Operating costs<br>Staffing | | 1,827,313 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 14 | 18 | 2,241,089 | 1,071,775 | 3,312,864 |
| GRAND TOTAL (RR + OR + SB) | | | | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 13 | 30 | 50 | 4,929,189 | 3,304,155 | 8,233,344 |
| Number of posts and staff costs<br>Current programme cycle | | | | | | | | | | 6 | 12 | 30 | 48 | | | |
| At the end of proposed programme cycle (indicative only) | | | | | | | | | | 7 | 13 | 30 | 50 | 4,929,189 | 3,304,155 | 8,233,344 |

RR = regular resources.
OR = other resources.
IP = International Professional.
NP = National Professional.
GS = General Service.
SB = support budget.

a/ Each post, regardless of its funding source, supports the country programme as a whole.
b/ Excludes temporary assistance and overtime.